

31 October 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 31 October 1968

DD/I provided the Director with materials in connection with today's meeting of Presidential advisors to consider strategic stock-pile objectives.

DD/I reported that Task Force LOOKOUT was negative.

DD/I advised that the cable to [ ] on strength figures is ready to go.

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Godfrey drew attention to David Binder's article in today's New York Times on the Soviet-East German plan to establish an international Communist organization similar to the Comintern-Cominform model. The plan is likely to be a focal point of the world Communist conference, now planned for the spring of 1969.

Godfrey noted that tomorrow is National Day in South Vietnam and that there might therefore be some terrorism from the Communist side.

D/ONE briefed on the status of the three Estimates scheduled for USIB today.

DD/S reported that the Agency met its goal for the Consolidated Fund Drive and that collections for the Educational Aid Fund appear to have leveled off at around \$13,000 per year.

DD/S drew attention to a series of thefts which have plagued our internal courier system and advised that the number one suspect was caught red-handed yesterday, although he denies any thievery other than the one incident for which the evidence is undeniable. The Director instructed that the employee in question should be terminated for cause.

DD/S briefed on Idar Rimestad's proposal for a State-CIA exchange of officers and noted that, for State, this program would be an extension

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of the already existing State exchange arrangements with some twenty Government agencies and private institutions. Rimestad has in mind an exchange of five to ten middle- and senior-grade officers for one- to two-year assignments in a variety of functional areas. The Director noted that, although the proposal is interesting and should be treated seriously, no agreement should be reached until the smoke clears from the current political season.

Carver advised that, in addition to an earlier report of the shipment into South Vietnam of a batch of automatic rifles, there is a new report of a new supply of incendiary grenades having been sent to South Vietnam, all of which could point to another round of urban terrorism.

Maury advised that Senator Jackson, while passing up an offer for a briefing in connection with the forthcoming North Atlantic Assembly, has requested a briefing Saturday morning on the recent rash of spy cases. DD/P advised that [ ] would be the appropriate briefer.

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Parrott reported that the Baker Panel is desirous of taking up the Eaton report and was informed that Defense Department comments on the report will not be ready until sometime in November at the earliest.

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The Director asked the DD/I and Carver to join him at 10 a. m. on Saturday, 2 November, for a session with the Office of Education Fellows.

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L. K. White

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# SOVIET IS SEEKING NEW RED GROUPING

## East Germans Back a Plan for a Moscow-Led Bloc Excluding Prague

By DAVID BINDER

Special to The New York Times

BERLIN, Oct. 30—The outlines of a new Soviet strategy to straighten out the wrangling world Communist movement and reimpose tighter controls over most parties have emerged in the last week in a series of lengthy speeches by Walter Ulbricht, the East German Communist leader, and others in his ruling central committee.

The speeches also show that the party leadership outspokenly supports the new strategy, which aims at creating a new-Moscow-based control organization resembling both the pre-war Comintern and the post-war Cominform in spirit and intent.

### Comintern Ended in '43

However, the structure and methods of the proposed new grouping appear to differ from those of the previous international Communist organizations.

The Comintern, or Communist International, was from 1919 to 1943 the Soviet instrument for directing the international Communist movement according to Moscow's wishes.

Stalin used it to purge Communist leaders of other nations who opposed him.

He created the Cominform, or Communist Information Bureau, in 1947 as a successor to the Comintern. Through Soviet advisers in various capitals,

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it was employed to maintain the Moscow line in the member parties of Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Poland, Czechoslovakia, France, Italy and, until 1948, Yugoslavia.

Run by one of Stalin's ideologists, Mikhail A. Suslov, it was dissolved in the process of de-Stalinization in 1956.

### Suslov an Advocate

Mr. Suslov, a member of the current Soviet leadership, who has remained an advocate of international Communist organizations, is believed to be a guiding spirit behind the new Soviet-East German strategy.

As described by Mr. Ulbricht and his aides at a Central Committee meeting of the Socialist Unity (Communist) party last week, the policy was conceived during the Czechoslovak crisis this summer and adopted immediately after August invasion of Czechoslovakia by the Soviet Union and four of its allies in the Warsaw Pact.

Mr. Ulbricht said the confrontation between Moscow's brand of communism and the Czechoslovak reformers had raised "the embittered conflict between socialism and imperialism" to a new pitch. This, he went on "crystallized the necessity for a socialist state community."

### Czechs Are Excluded

As defined by Mr. Ulbricht, this community would consist of the Soviet Union, East Germany, Poland, Hungary and Bulgaria. It excludes Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Yugoslavia and Albania.

He made clear that the Soviet Union and East Germany would constitute the guiding force of the grouping.

The transformation of this community into something resembling the Comintern and Cominform was indicated by two East German ideological aides, Alfred Kurella and Herman Axen.

Mr. Kurella, a former Comintern official, said:

"I think we should seize the initiative at least within the community of European socialist countries to create permanent organs for down-to-earth arbitration of serious differences of theoretical opinion."

He said this proposal was identical to the function of the Comintern and Cominform.

### World Parley at Issue

Mr. Axen, whose responsibility in the Politburo is foreign party relations, indicated that the East German and Soviet parties had hoped to institutionalize the new grouping at a conference of Communist parties. The conference, originally scheduled for late November in Moscow, has been postponed.

He said both parties "in no way fear" the outcome of the world conference, despite controversy among Communist parties over the occupation of Czechoslovakia.

The implication of the speeches was that the East German and Soviet parties believe it necessary to steer a collision course against the "revisionist" forces who dominate Western Communist parties.

Such a confrontation may split at least some of the western parties into pro-Moscow and anti-Moscow factions. This would be in addition to an earlier division into pro-Peking and pro-Moscow parties.

As indicated by the East German ideologists, the new Soviet policy would treat the resulting pro-Moscow groups as "true Marxist-Leninist parties" and the anti-Moscow majorities as "revisionists."

Following the expected split at the world conference, pro-Moscow loyalists in the Western parties would then be asked to participate in the socialist state community, in the "permanent organs" foreseen in Mr. Kurella's speech.

Judging from the speeches, the strategy aims at clothing Moscow's central guidance of the factions and parties still loyal to the Soviet Union in a seemingly loose garment.

Mr. Axen indicated that the East Germans and Russians wished to avoid the stigma of the Cominform and Comintern which are still identified with the worst aspects of Stalin's dictatorship.